

A clean version of the claims as amended in the response dated March 15, 2001 is attached hereto. A copy of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment is also attached.

A one-month extension of time extending the time for response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment from April 30, 2001 until May 30, 2001 is enclosed herewith together with the appropriate extension fee. If it is determined that any other fee is required, the Patent and Trademark Office is specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg & Raskin, P.C.

According to currently recommended Patent Office policy, the Examiner is specifically authorized to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephonic interview would advance the prosecution of this application.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

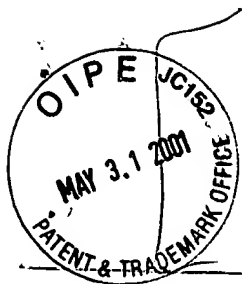
Respectfully submitted,

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CLEAN VERSION OF CLAIMS AS AMENDED
IN AMENDMENT DATED MARCH 15, 2001

1. A blood vessel treatment device comprising:

B1 means adapted for insertion into a blood vessel; and

means adapted for intraluminal contact with a wall of said blood vessel, for emitting laser energy to cause a decrease in the diameter of said blood vessel.

21. A method of treating a blood vessel using laser energy, comprising the steps of:

inserting means for emitting laser energy into the blood vessel at a puncture site, wherein said emitting means has a laser emitting section;

B2 placing said laser emitting section of said emitting means into intraluminal contact with the blood vessel at a treatment site;

emptying the blood vessel; and

emitting said laser energy into the blood vessel through said laser emitting section of said emitting means, thereby decreasing the diameter of said blood vessel.